

From: Coleen L. Hamman

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**I OPPOSE HB 5232 (R-Afendoulis) and SB 720 (R-MacGregor) introduced
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These bills are an infringement upon my property rights! My property rights and control over the establishment of historic districts are fully protected under PA 169 (1970). The bills would only make the districting process exhausting and uncertain and increase costs. This is senseless when historic preservation has proven to be one of the most powerful tools we have for economic revitalization.

I have been a resident and property owner in the Heritage Hill Historic District since 1984. You most likely don't know since you are not a resident of Heritage Hill that my Heritage Hill Association represents the oldest and one of the largest historic districts in the state of Michigan. Why was the Heritage Hill Association or historic preservation organizations not consulted prior to moving this bill at such a quick pace? I had no opportunity to learn more about the concerns you as the bill sponsors say you are responding to. Who are you responding to? Not me, the property owner. Your abrupt actions and lack of transparency make me feel the need to question your true motives.

HB 5232 and SB 720 jeopardize my property owner's investments in historic districts by subjecting districts to a citywide renewal vote every ten years. This would allow the vote of residents outside a historic district to determine if that district would continue to exist. This takes away local control. This takes away my rights as the property owner! This would seriously jeopardize the investments I have made in my home.

These two bills propose removing restrictions for using alternative materials on historic homes despite having been informed that removal of the Secretary of Interior Standards, which have been in effect nationwide for over 50 years, would likely lead to our Heritage Hill Historical District being removed from the National Register thus forfeiting otherwise available federal historic tax credits. This is a direct infringement on my property rights, as these were the rules when I purchased and invested in my property. This change in rules could allow alterations and/or developments that diminish the authenticity of the architecture and the aesthetic historic charm of my neighborhood.

Additionally, I do not want decisions regarding historic repairs to be based upon politics. Allowing politicians to rule on alterations rather than individuals that are trained and knowledgeable in historic guidelines opens the door to political favors and clout. Your abrupt actions and lack of transparency make me feel the need to question once again your true motives.

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